

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

registering one of the related functions for the state indicator corresponding to a current status change when ~~a~~the state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator; and

invoking the registered function upon receipt of a user input for designating the state indicator.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

registering one of the related functions for the state indicator corresponding to a current status change when ~~a~~the state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator;

determining whether the coordinates of a touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input; and

invoking the registered function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a state indicator in a portable terminal displaying the state indicator, which indicates a state change, the method comprising the steps of:

registering one of the related functions for the state indicator corresponding to a current status change when ~~a~~the state change to be reflected in the representation of the state indicator occurs;

altering the state representation of the state indicator;

determining whether a cursor or an input focus is positioned over a representation area of

the state indicator upon receipt of a user button input; and

invoking the registered function when the cursor or input focus is positioned over the representation area of the state indicator.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to a message state indicator indicating message arrival in a portable terminal where the state indicator is displayed on a screen of a touch screen input/output device when the message arrives, the method comprising the steps of:

registering a message reading function of the related functions for the message state indicator when the message arrives;

displaying the alteration of the representation of the message state indicator;

determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input; and

invoking the message reading function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a user interface for invoking a function related to an alarm state indicator indicating alarm setting in a portable terminal where the state indicator is displayed on a screen of a touch screen input/output device when an alarm is set, the method comprising the steps of:

registering an alarm function of the related functions for the alarm state indicator when the alarm is set;

displaying the alteration of the representation of the alarm state indicator;

determining whether coordinates of a touch screen input indicate a representation area of the state indicator upon receipt of the touch screen input; and

invoking the alarm function when the coordinates of the touch screen input indicate the representation area of the state indicator.